

THREE-DECKERS.

Rodney" ploughed the sea into ribbons of white foam, as she glided on her journey out to the old Hope, in the days when the sea was undreamed of and ships like the three-decker" ruled the waves.

Hundred men manned her, and among them was Corporal Eccles, "boys of the old brigade."

Eccles, who spins this yarn to hale and hearty at 61, and he Her Majesty 21 years as a Royal Artillery soldier and sailor too."

"It takes me days to tell you all my during the 21 years I spent on three-deckers," H.M.S. "Dragon," and "Rodney,"" said the bluff old man, shifting his gird, "but that the Cape in the "Rodney" was the weather I ever experienced.

Hundred men on board her, and disabled or wounded in the battle is broken adrift from their lashing against the bulwarks until they are smashed. Sheep, caught by bills of the green sea, were swept down the to corks in a mill-noon.

"If I wound on my thigh to this was caused by a table hurled against me, scrambling into my hammock. Aye, sailor-life is full of adventures and endurance. During the whole of active service I never had a day's what's a pretty good record!

"My term was nearly completed, I referred to H.M.S. "Pembroke." She been taken off active service and fitted out for a work-ship. During tions, as she lay at her moorings, her ports wide open, I had to turn on sentry duty, rain or snow. Winter it was, and the weather cold

"I about 'twasn' docks," said the "exposed to the worst of weather, a severe cold, and I couldn't shake y record was broken.

"I relied on my chest, hard and fast, breathing awfully bad. I couldn't ill. I was too wheezy. You could breathing, like a tug, twenty yards manage to struggle through my high.

"Indigestion set in. After eating each became swollen with wind, disagreeable rumbling noise and great pain. Several doctors tried to but their medicine didn't hit the got worse and worse.

"I old Pembroke, now lying at Chatham, something like the hulk I then was, shook my body through and

"For months I slept propped up sows. After a fit of coughing, as rolled off me, soaking my linen, seemed on fire.

"The sharp stab of a cowardly knife ing breath pain me. I got alarmed sows, for things were looking ugly.

"On this day is the 25th of April, said the gallant Corporal, "I job that aching pain that caught me ck, on the right side, and that my ere very captive. Altogether, I was way. My wife, when the doctors to help me—a sheer hulk—insisted me Mother Seigel's Syrup, to pull

"No faith in it, because it was an ed medicine, but I swear by now. My first bottle sharpened my improved my breathing, and my cough.

"Improvement continued week by until I was completely restored to Cough, pain, and weariness went ay like chaff before the wind."

"Oral Eccles," of 9, Southill Road, says Mr. H. Woolgar, "is person- own to me. Unquestionably, Seigel's saved his life. Now he is getting every day."

"I continued the old seaman, who ay, is proud of his medal for "long "Mother Seigel's Syrup put life and 'go' into my almost lifeless hulk, w sixty-five, still young and full of energy—all due, mark you, Sir, to Syrup. If you think there will tog ay, you may publish this."

"As the Corporal's stirring narrative truth is vouched for by Mr. G. W. of the Chatham High Street, number writes: "I can verify every word. Eccles has said. Mother Seigel's me made a new man of him. He maed with Mr. Eccles's case could be efficacy of Mother Seigel's Syrup disorders of the stomach and liver."

"Rodney no more ploughs the deep, sailing in peace and quiet at Chatham, who are called in stormy waters there is trouble within you—mating your digestive organs, in fact—can a the steps of the gallant Corporal, attain, in this way, to the same hale

[Advertisement.]

OUR OMNIBUS.

THE CONDUCTOR.

The excommunication of Count Tolstoi by the Greek Church, referred to in "Cigarette Papers," has borne immediate and bad fruit. Some 800 students are under arrest in St. Petersburg. A prison in Russia has not of necessity any public "goal delivery." It needs no trial for the authorities to send a prisoner into lifelong exile or, what is more merciful, to his death.

These students revolted against the Church's condemnation of Tolstoi, the leading intellectual light of a barbarous country. Unfortunately they were not content with a peaceful protest against the humiliations, insults, and persecutions, but, after the fashion of a troop of Cossacks, sought like heroes, and it is to be feared some of them will be called upon to die, like heroes, in what they conceive to be the cause of Freedom.

"Down with the Rotten Officials!" "Give us Free Government!" "Down with the Czar!" "Down with temporal rule for students, that forces them into the army!" and other cries, mingled with their shouts of protest, that for two hours enabled an almost unarmed throng to battle with the soldiers, the possible sacrifice of personal liberty, the ruin of a life, the break-up of a happy home, perhaps the death of a loved one, the loss of a Parliament member, the oath of allegiance to the King, question his title, meet at his troops, openly rejoice at the victory of his enemies, and threaten revolution without turning a hair in fear of the consequences or experiencing a single thrill of gratitude for the excess of Liberty under which he is privileged to live.

If Freedom goes about in fetters under Russian rule, Liberty has too much license in England. For the sake of the loyal Irish, the vast majority of our fellow subjects of the United Kingdom, one deeply regrets the policy of irritation which the Irish party is pursuing in the House of Commons. Their evident desire to break down the ever-growing sentiment of friendship between the two peoples, the noble ambition while it may humiliate us in the eyes of other nations that misinterpret our compliance, it cannot be said to achieve the rebel end in view. In our time Ireland herself was never more contented than she is to-day, nor the bravest of her sons more loyal to the United King.

Lord Salisbury reminded us the other day of the sentences of capital. If the unseemly and irritating agitation of a party of well-meaning but ill-considered men is not peace and prosperity in Ireland, but unrest and trouble for political reasons, the sister island might be the envy of nations. It is patent to the world what confidence and enterprise has done for the North of Ireland, which is expressed in its handsome and wealthy city of Belfast.

Five and twenty years of peace, and worthy effort in the disaffected districts, would make many a dreary waste blossom into fruit and flower and many a decayed town and village into a city of great industrial prosperity. But capital and enterprise shrink from the risks of riot and contention which Irishmen in Parliament threaten and desire.

There is not an Englishman who is not anxious to give Ireland everything she can fairly ask for; but we know as well as the honest and toiling majority of the Irish people, that the men in the House of Commons who outrage courtesy, insult the speaker, and defy the laws, do not share this opinion. They are not loyal Irishmen and loyal Englishmen alike not to permit the contents of friendship and good-will to be adversely influenced by the men who break their oath of allegiance to the King and the State, and so their utmost wish is the disruption of the Empire.

THE ACTOR.

Mr. Waller and Mr. Mollison began their tour with "Henry V." at Alton on Monday, and at once secured the hearty approval of local players. This is a bright and cheerful cap, for in the matter of Shakespearean revivals the Mancunians are especially good judges. For a long time past they have had a liberal education, began by Charles Calvert, and continued more recently by his son, Louis, who has had, of course, competitors in the business, but even Mr. Louis Calvert could not have turned out a production more thoroughly artistic than this latest one of "Henry V."

"The Bard" is unquestionably in the ascendant. That his "Twelfth Night" should have been represented at Her Majesty's over fifty times in the midst of so great a social depression, and that the play is now under going, is little short of marvellous. Of course, the piece is beautifully done, the performance and the scenic accompaniments being practically faultless. But the groundwork of the success achieved lies in the printed pages of Shakespeare, whose wonderful genius is vividly shown in the adaptability of his dramas to all sorts of circumstances. Familiar as they are to readers, if not always to players, his dramas are always fresh and suggestive.

Of course certain of the Shakespeare plays have more power to attract the public than others have. The comedies, for example, are always the first favourites, the tragedies and the historical plays come next. By historical, I mean English historical. Yet we have seen of late years some very triumphant revivals of the Roman series. Even "Julius Cæsar" has had, under Mr. Tree's auspices, a long run, and we are all hoping, and indeed expecting, that even the neglected "Coriolanus" will, under Sir Henry Irving's direction, prove itself not less welcome. Mr. Benson's revival of the play made it clear that it has great possibilities.

Meanwhile, Mr. Tree is preparing to be seen in London in a character now to him—namely, that of Macbeth in the play by Stevenson and Henley. In the first instance, the impersona-

tion will be presented at a benefit matinee, but it is pretty certain to take a permanent place in the actor's repertory. The play itself has a good deal of literary polish. As to its stage effectiveness we must judge by-and-by. Of other versions of "Macbeth" there have been many, all of them emphasizing the melodramatic and farcical elements. In our own day, of course, the best Macbeth has been that of Sir Henry Irving, who had Weedon Grossmith for his Jacques Strop.

One by one our leading men and leading ladies take to the suburban tour. Miss Kate Eborke has just started upon one, Mr. Tree has arranged for one, and now we are told that Miss Maria Tempest is going to do ditto with "English Nell." Well, the suburbs have already had Miss Neilson's "Nell Gwynn"; it is only right that they should have Miss Tempest's. I hope, however, that this accomplished and delightful singer is not going to desert the lyric boards altogether. Why does she not put herself at the head of a light opera company? We could do with a few revivals of the best English operas.

It is reported from America that Miss Ethel Barrymore, daughter of Mr. Maurice Barrymore, has made a great hit in Mr. Clyde Fitch's "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines," and is to go "starring" in that piece, and to remember Barrymore's appearance in "Peter the Great" at the Lyceum, appearances which hardly presaged very great successes in the future. But actresses have to find their particular groove, and perhaps Miss Barrymore has found hers. The great headway made in New York by Miss Hilda Spring will not at all surprise the judicious London players, who must have marked in "Trelawny of the Wells" her very evident promise.

OLD IZAAK.

There will be little to report in the way of fishing until the trout season opens, for coarse fishing is at an end for the present in all rivers where the close time fixed by the Mundella Act prevails. The Thames is closed for fishing of every kind until the end of the month, and trout fishing begins in April.

Many anglers were out on the closing day, and although the season wound up badly some good fish were taken. From the reports of the Thames Angling Preservation Society I gather that Loton Hackett had a 7lb. pike at Chertsey, and Messrs. Chambers and Jones a 10lb. perch, of perch, the largest weighing 11lb. Two nice trout, weighing 4lb. 8oz. and 2lb. 3oz., were taken by Messrs. T. Hall and G. Edmunds, of the Walton-on-Thames Angling Association, but being out of season were carefully returned. Mr. D. Madhock, of Richmond, fishing with George Rosewell, at Laleham, caught a tench weighing 21lb. 13oz., and a few good pike and chub have been taken in the upper stretches of the river.

There had been better sport in the Lee, and some good roach have been landed at the leading stations. At the time of writing the water is of a good colour for fishing, and promises well for the Anglers' Benevolent competition at St. Margaret's to-day, unless any exceptional rain happens in the interval.

Mr. J. V. I. Hear that Mr. W. H. Elmore (V.P. Central Association) landed nearly 100 roach there on the closing day, one-half of which he returned to the river. Mr. E. Collins, secretary of the local association, informs me of fish weighed in, and what interest men take in the ordinary fishing of the Lee.

The Peckham Brothers had a grand gathering on Monday last, on the occasion of the South London visit, 21 clubs being represented. Mr. G. H. Shepherd presided, Mr. George Durand occupied the vice-chair, and Mr. T. Gibbs, secretary, did his best to see the capital programme presented carried through.

A complimentary concert for the benefit of Donald Flint, to which many artists are according willing support, is to be given by the Blue Anchor Musical Society, at the Blue Anchor, Church-st., Shoreditch, to-morrow (Monday) evening. Donald, if I mistake not, was a member of the choir, and has done a little singing in his time, as well as for anglers, in his country. As an old member of the Good Intent, and one of the best-known East-end anglers, he deserves a crowded room in his distress.

Birmingham anglers have apparently given grievous offence to some of the good folks at Pershore, by holding Sunday fishing contests in the locality. "Old Izaak" is no advocate for by fishing competitions, unless they are for the purpose of benevolent purposes, and those which come on Sundays, however well-conducted the anglers may be, are obviously open to Pharisaical objections. "All things are yellow to a jaundiced eye," and our Birmingham brethren as a body will, no doubt, fully approve the charges brought against them by the London anglers, who would certainly do in a similar case.

Sir Robert Mowbray, M.P., presides over the annual dinner of the Stockwell Angling Society (of which he is president), to be held at the Horse Hotel, Kennington, on Tuesday next. There is sure to be a goodly gathering of anglers at the festive board, and the society has "Old Izaak's" best wishes for its continued prosperity and success.

The Anchor and Hope "At Home," which comes off at their headquarters, the Thomas & Beckett, Old Kent-road, to-morrow (Monday) evening, deserves to be well attended, and I hope will be so. The society are arranging a special concert (an augmentation of their regular contribution to the funds of the Thames Angling Preservation Society), which will take place about a month hence.

Many clubs had an outing on or near the closing day of the season, but the weather prevented many fish being taken. Mr. E. J. Carter, of the West London Angling Society, had about 120lb. of roach and chub from Old Windsor, and other takes are reported. The whole of the punts were afterwards examined by the officers of the T.A.P.S., and found to be clear of fish.

The Anglers' Association have issued a circular asking all Central Association clubs to enrol with them, if only in name, stating that no enrolment fee will be charged, nor need any member take a ticket. It looks like a case of the spider and the fly. The Central Association ticket costs but 1s. 6d. per annum; conveys all privileges, and gives the right to fish waters inferior to none of their kind. The Central Association has charged no enrolment fee for years past; has liberally supported preservation work, and done much to protect the rights of anglers in general, in cases where the Anglers' Association have refused their aid.

WILL WORKMAN.

There is not one of us but what has a grievance of some sort or other, some imaginary and some real. Here is one I consider very real. I will give it just as it was sent to me, and let it tell its own tale. Dear sir, I would like to be made prisoner of war at the poor stables and compelled to work at the St. Pancras Infirmary. Highgate. These poor women have to work ten hours per day every week day and nine and a-half hours on Sundays, a total of sixty nine and a-half hours. There are 19 women altogether, and their pay is 3s. 6d. per day, and it is not a day's work, but a week's. I am afraid it won't help them much making it public. If it was 19d. a week, or 1s. 10d. a week, it would be a great deal better. I am afraid it won't help them much making it public. If it was 19d. a week, or 1s. 10d. a week, it would be a great deal better.

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Arrangements, too, are being made for a large number of eminent foreign musicians to visit London during the season. But everyone must sympathize with the lesser people above-mentioned, and I understand that an appeal will be made to the King and Queen, urging a curtailment of the Court mourning, so that society "At Home" and other functions may be resumed.

A tour of the principal cities in America is about to be undertaken by the famous Lancashire brass band "Besses o' th' Barn," of Whitfield, Manchester. They have won scores of first prizes in band contests in England, and their popularity is something prodigious in the Northern provinces. I understand that the musicians will be accompanied to America by Mr. Alexander Owen, the well-known conductor.

At the Royal Choral Society's performance of "Israel in Egypt," in the Albert Hall last week, Sir Frederick Bridge restored the famous "The Lord is a Man of War" to its proper position in the oratorio as a duet for two voices. He thus removed a reproach incurred by the late Sir Joseph Barnby, who caused the number to be sung by the whole of the tenors and basses of the choir. The correction was fully appreciated by the audience last Thursday, the duet, sung by Mr. Andrew Black and Mr. Watkins, being enthusiastically received. King Edward has accepted the position of patron of the Royal Choral Society, formerly held by Queen Victoria.

Mr. Robert Newman's London Musical Festival will be held at Queen's Hall from April 29 to May 4. Three eminent foreign conductors—M. Saint-Saens, from Paris, and Mr. Richard Wagner, from Germany—will direct concerts, and our own accomplished and popular countryman, Mr. Henry Wood, will also take his full share of conducting.

MR. WHEELER.

The riding season is well upon us, and Easter is just round the corner. I hope my friends of the wheel are ready, and are not setting too much store by promises of depot managers and agents. I continue to harp thus early upon this subject, because it is useless referring to it within a week of the Easter holidays. The big firm of manufacturers, who have written me this week from the Midlands, thanking me for urging the riding public to order in time. I find one well-known Birmingham firm have published a recent note from "The People" on this subject, and sent it to all their customers and agents.

Last Sunday made a capital day for cycling, and the bright sunshine and good roads as usual brought out its quota of wheelfolk. The Brighton Road was in capital condition. Tempted by the happy state of the weather I made a trip down to the queen of watering places, Brighton, with my bicycle, and the Surrey and Sussex country side was showing just a trace of the coming spring. A jaunt to Brighton at this time of the year makes a good training spin, and gets one into condition for the Easter holidays.

Now that the Oxford and Cambridge boat race practice is in full swing, cyclists foregather at Putney in numbers. On Saturday, March 30, the race will be rowed at about 10.15 in the morning. A cyclist can see the first mile and a half of the race from the Putney Embankment, and then spin across to Barnes and see the finish. It is not possible to ride along the Surrey towpath just now.

The Cyclist's Touring Club annual general meeting was held last week, and this proposal to include motor cars in the list of members of the club was very promptly vetoed. The club membership to-day, compared to this time last year, shows a falling off of 3,376—the present roll, however, still shows the very respectable figure of 43,621. The financial outlook of the club does not seem very bright, and a large number of members are anxious for the formation of a committee with powers to look into the accounts, and to report upon the large amount spent on administrative work. The proposal, however, was out-voted.

I regret that Mr. G. Balfour's answer in the House of Commons to Mr. Thomas Lough, the member for Ilchester, regarding the railway charges for the transit of bicycles, was hardly satisfactory. Mr. Lough inquired whether the President of the Board of Trade was aware that the recommendations of the Board of Trade, and of the views expressed by the late president, Mr. Balfour, remarked that he was not aware that any promises had been made, and that he personally was not prepared to introduce any legislation on this subject until the matter ends for the moment.

The bicycle trade seems to exercise a particular fascination for the enterprising trickster. Only a little while back we read of the sportsman who was anxious to dispose of bicycles for eightpence. Now there are Charles Clifford and George Lingwood, who have earned an unenviable reputation, and one of them find a fortune for twenty-two months in one of his Majesty's hotels, for trading by advertisement under the high sounding name of The Greyhound Cycling Co. Lingwood and Clifford advertised that the company would send a five guinea bicycle on receipt of five guineas. It is stated that upwards of two hundred tools were found to send their postal orders and—to whistle for their ten guinea bicycle.

The Volunteer cyclist manoeuvres to be conducted in the Home district, at Easter, are to extend over four days. The cyclists will be formed into four battalions as follows:—The South London Brigade, the East and North London Brigade, the West and Home Counties Brigade, and the Surrey Brigade. A total allowance of 10s. for each officer and man who attends the four days will be made. The operations will be very interesting, and I understand the War Office officials are for once really taking a deep interest in these cycling manoeuvres.

MADAME.

Spring weather gives every evidence of being later than spring fashions, for already the shops are boasting of colour and varied hues in their different departments. So soon as the half-mourning draws to a close, we may confidently expect an outburst of colour. Indeed, it behoves us all to reconsider our pinks and blues and yellows and greens, if only to give our men-folk a glimpse of a cheerful spot of colour, for husbands and brothers and lovers are beginning to urge us to introduce a little brightness into our attire.

white checked silk showing between the rows of tiny tufts or gathers, and the shoulder-traps are long enough to simulate cash ends.

Quite one of the new fashions is, instead of uniting the seams of our skirts, to machine them down on each side over some contrasting colour or material which is inserted between the seams of the dress, and was about 14in. deep. All the seams were strapped with narrow lines of the same silk trimming.

The additions to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the week ending March 19 include a Tasmanian wolf, a Rhesus monkey, a grey ichneumon, four chameleons, a spotted ichneumon, a West African python, four Goudian grass snakes, a Pinche monkey, a Maguari stork, a dingo, and a box constructor.

As an addendum to my notes in our last issue on the abnormal orange, I should like to say that, through the kindness of Dr. James Murie, F.L.S., the specimen was exhibited at the last meeting of the Linnean Society. He thus removed a reproach incurred by the late Sir Joseph Barnby, who caused the number to be sung by the whole of the tenors and basses of the choir. The correction was fully appreciated by the audience last Thursday, the duet, sung by Mr. Andrew Black and Mr. Watkins, being enthusiastically received.

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M. Emil Bauer's second pianoforte recital will take place at St. James's Hall on Wednesday afternoon next.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

A correspondent of Crowthorne, Berks, writes: "I saw on March 8 a bird of the name of Buckland, Junior, in the garden of a friend of mine. It was a very young bird, and I was within a few feet of it. The earliest date on which I have noticed it in this country before was on March 27, 1898, but this year it is three weeks earlier, and I thought, if you would care to record this occurrence in the columns of your paper, it might be of interest to your readers. There are also several young blackbirds and thrushes about here, and the wood-pigeons are beginning to nest."

In reply to my correspondent's inquiry, I would say that the willow warbler is not yet common in this country about the middle of April, and remains as usual until the middle of September. There are, however, sometimes individuals which do not migrate, and stay in the country—mostly in the warmer southern counties—all the winter. The specimen mentioned in your inquiry, which was probably was one that did not migrate on the September migration; but, of course, it is possible that the mildness of the present winter may have been responsible for its early visit here—indeed, it came from foreign shores.

Amongst the exhibits at the Zoological Society's meeting at Hammersmith, on Tuesday last, was a magnificent pair of horns of the sable antelope of South Africa, sent by Mr. Howland Ward, the well-known taxidermist. The horns were obtained in Darkestland, and measured 50in. in length round the curve and 24in. in circumference at the base. The distance between the tips of each horn was 18in. These are undoubtedly the record pair of horns that have been received in this country, the previous best being those obtained by Mr. Selous a few years ago in the same locality, which measured 47in. in length. Mr. Coryndon obtained a pair also, which measured about 1 of an inch less than those bagged by Mr. Selous.

The notion that frogs and toads can live entirely bored up in solid blocks of granite, coal, &c., for a great number of years, is, through the frequent reports in the newspapers of auditors then in these conditions, so deeply rooted that an attempt to unpeel the many who have accepted the statements as facts is perhaps a bold stroke to make, but I am willing to undergo the reprimands that I am sure to get from many of my readers if I succeed in a small measure to prevent the spread of the belief in this fallacy. I say fallacy, because it is nothing more or less; and if only people took the trouble to even casually look into the origin of such creatures, they would see that it would be impossible for them to live in these situations. They are lung-breathing animals, and it is absolutely necessary for them to have air to exist at all. This, of course, is not present in solid lumps of coal, clay, or stone, and therefore no lung-breathing animal can live if entirely enveloped by them.

I do not say that frogs and toads are not often seen across in blocks of hard material, but it will always be found that there is a passage or cavity leading to the chamber or cavity in which they are found. They are hibernating creatures, and on the approach of the cold weather they crawl into any sheltered nook or corner for their winter's sleep, and it is while in this condition that often the objects in which they have taken up their quarters are removed, and, on being broken open, the toad or frog drops out, apparently nearly dead, but in reality only in a torpid state. The entrance hole in the object, after being broken in, of course, not noticed, and the story abroad that the creature was embedded in a solid block, and that on being released and getting air soon revived.

I have a long letter from a correspondent of Plumstead Common relating an incident in connection with a charming "Arizona Bill." The letter is too long for insertion here in its entirety. The following abstract of it must, therefore, suffice: "On one occasion, while performing before the garrison at Spike Island, a great disturbance, which caused the rattle-snake that was being put through its paces to become angry, with the result that Arizona Bill was bitten twice—once on the first finger and again on the thumb. It was thought that the man would succumb to his injuries, but, on injecting a permanganate of potash and iodine concoction of a weed used by the Moqui Indians—and drinking a stiff glass of whisky to keep up the circulation, he pulled through until the arrival of the doctor. The wound on the thumb was cauterised, but eventually gangrenous, and had to be amputated; but the finger, which was not cauterised, is now quite healed."

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Quite one of the new fashions is, instead of uniting the seams of our skirts, to machine them down on each side over some contrasting colour or material which is inserted between the seams of the dress, and was about 14in. deep. All the seams were strapped with narrow lines of the same silk trimming.

The additions to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the week ending March 19 include a Tasmanian wolf, a Rhesus monkey, a grey ichneumon, four chameleons, a spotted ichneumon, a West African python, four Goudian grass snakes, a Pinche monkey, a Maguari stork, a dingo, and a box constructor.

As an addendum to my notes in our last issue on the abnormal orange, I should like to say that, through the kindness of Dr. James Murie, F.L.S., the specimen was exhibited at the last meeting of the Linnean Society. He thus removed a reproach incurred by the late Sir Joseph Barnby, who caused the number to be sung by the whole of the tenors and basses of the choir. The correction was fully appreciated by the audience last Thursday, the duet, sung by Mr. Andrew Black and Mr. Watkins, being enthusiastically received.

Mr. Robert Newman's London Musical Festival will be held at Queen's Hall from April 29 to May 4. Three eminent foreign conductors—M. Saint-Saens, from Paris, and Mr. Richard Wagner, from Germany—will direct concerts, and our own accomplished and popular countryman, Mr. Henry Wood, will also take his full share of conducting.

M. Emil Bauer's second pianoforte recital will take place at St. James's Hall on Wednesday afternoon next.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

A correspondent of Crowthorne, Berks, writes: "I saw on March 8 a bird of the name of Buckland, Junior, in the garden of a friend of mine. It was a very young bird, and I was within a few feet of it. The earliest date on which I have noticed it in this country before was on March 27, 1898, but this year it is three weeks earlier, and I thought, if you would care to record this occurrence in the columns of your paper, it might be of interest to your readers. There are also several young blackbirds and thrushes about here, and the wood-pigeons are beginning to nest."

In reply to my correspondent's inquiry, I would say that the willow warbler is not yet common in this country about the middle of April, and remains as usual until the middle of September. There are, however, sometimes individuals which do not migrate, and stay in the country—mostly in the warmer southern counties—all the winter. The specimen mentioned in your inquiry, which was probably was one that did not migrate on the September migration; but, of course, it is possible that the mildness of the present winter may have been responsible for its early visit here—indeed, it came from foreign shores.

Amongst the exhibits at the Zoological Society's meeting at Hammersmith, on Tuesday last, was a magnificent pair of horns of the sable antelope of South Africa, sent by Mr. Howland Ward, the well-known taxidermist. The horns were obtained in Darkestland, and measured 50in. in length round the curve and 24in. in circumference at the base. The distance between the tips of each horn was 18in. These are undoubtedly the record pair of horns that have been received in this country, the previous best being those obtained by Mr. Selous a few years ago in the same locality, which measured 47in. in length. Mr. Coryndon obtained a pair also, which measured about 1 of an inch less than those bagged by Mr. Selous.

The notion that frogs and toads can live entirely bored up in solid blocks of granite, coal, &c., for a great number of years, is, through the frequent reports in the newspapers of auditors then in these conditions, so deeply rooted that an attempt to unpeel the many who have accepted the statements as facts is perhaps a bold stroke to make, but I am willing to undergo the reprimands that I am sure to get from many of my readers if I succeed in a small measure to prevent the spread of the belief in this fallacy. I say fallacy, because it is nothing more or less; and if only people took the trouble to even casually look into the origin of such creatures, they would see that it would be impossible for them to live in these situations. They are lung-breathing animals, and it is absolutely necessary for them to have air to exist at all. This, of course, is not present in solid lumps of coal, clay, or stone, and therefore no lung-breathing animal can live if entirely enveloped by them.

I do not say that frogs and toads are not often seen across in blocks of hard material, but it will always be found that there is a passage or cavity leading to the chamber or cavity in which they are found. They are hibernating creatures, and on the approach of the cold weather they crawl into any sheltered nook or corner for their winter's sleep, and it is while in this condition that often the objects in which they have taken up their quarters are removed, and, on being broken open, the toad or frog drops out, apparently nearly dead, but in reality only in a torpid state. The entrance hole in the object, after being broken in, of course, not noticed, and the story abroad that the creature was embedded in a solid block, and that on being released and getting air soon revived.

I have a long letter from a correspondent of Plumstead Common relating an incident in connection with a charming "Arizona Bill." The letter is too long for insertion here in its entirety. The following abstract of it must, therefore, suffice: "On one occasion, while performing before the garrison at Spike Island, a great disturbance, which caused the rattle-snake that was being put through its paces to become angry, with the result that Arizona Bill was bitten twice—once on the first finger and again on the thumb. It was thought that the man would succumb to his injuries, but, on injecting a permanganate of potash and iodine concoction of a weed used by the Moqui Indians—and drinking a stiff glass of whisky to keep up the circulation, he pulled through until the arrival of the doctor. The wound on the thumb was cauterised, but eventually gangrenous, and had to be amputated; but the finger, which was not cauterised, is now quite healed."

The riding season is well upon us, and Easter is just round the corner. I hope my friends of the wheel are ready, and are not setting too much store by promises of depot managers and agents. I continue to harp thus early upon this subject, because it is useless referring to it within a week of the Easter holidays. The big firm of manufacturers, who have written me this week from the Midlands, thanking me for urging the riding public to order in time. I find one well-known Birmingham firm have published a recent note from "The People" on this subject, and sent it to all their customers and agents.

PATTERN ORDER FORM. Send orders to "The People's" Office, and mark envelope "Madame."

Description.	Measure.	Description.	Measure.
1. Bust, round	B.	10. Waist, round	W.
2. Bust, under arms	B.	11. Bust, round	B.
3. Bust, under arms	B.	12. Bust, round	B.
4. Bust, under arms	B.	13. Bust, round	B.
5. Bust, under arms	B.	14. Bust, round	B.
6. Bust, under arms	B.	15. Bust, round	B.
7. Bust, under arms	B.	16. Bust, round	B.
8. Bust, under arms	B.	17. Bust, round	B.
9. Bust, under arms	B.	18. Bust, round	B.

ANOTHER FORM: Send orders to "The People's" Office, and mark envelope "Madame."

Description.	Measure.	Description.	Measure.
1. Bust, round	B.	10. Waist, round	W.
2. Bust, under arms	B.	11. Bust, round	B.
3. Bust, under arms	B.	12. Bust, round	B.
4. Bust, under arms	B.	13. Bust, round	B.
5. Bust, under arms	B.	14. Bust, round	B.
6. Bust, under arms	B.	15. Bust, round	B.
7. Bust, under arms	B.	16. Bust, round	B.
8. Bust, under arms	B.	17. Bust, round	B.
9. Bust, under arms	B.	18. Bust, round	B.

ANOTHER FORM: Send orders to "The People's" Office, and mark envelope "Madame."

Description.	Measure.	Description.	Measure.
1. Bust, round	B.	10. Waist, round	W.
2. Bust, under arms	B.	11. Bust, round	B.
3. Bust, under arms	B.	12. Bust, round	B.
4. Bust, under arms	B.	13. Bust, round	B.
5. Bust, under arms	B.	14. Bust, round	B.
6. Bust, under arms	B.	15. Bust, round	B.
7. Bust, under arms	B.	16. Bust, round	B.
8. Bust, under arms	B.	17. Bust, round	B.
9. Bust, under arms	B.	18. Bust, round	B.

ANOTHER FORM: Send orders to "The People's" Office, and mark envelope "Madame."

Description.	Measure.	Description.	Measure.
1. Bust, round	B.	10. Waist, round	W.
2. Bust, under arms	B.	11. Bust, round	B.
3. Bust, under arms	B.	12. Bust, round	B.
4. Bust, under arms	B.	13. Bust, round	B.
5. Bust, under arms	B.	14. Bust, round	B.
6. Bust, under arms	B.	15. Bust, round	B.
7. Bust, under arms</			

THE CORONET.

One cannot help feeling that both author and publisher have selected a method and a title for "The Coronet" which are not relatively new. Grundy's "A Fool's Paradise" was first produced. However, there is sufficient interest in what came, but he regarded an example of the dramatic medium in form of a play to justify its revival. Miss Kate L. Rolfe, who has also herself undertaken the role of Mrs. Selwyn, the wife whose sole purpose in life is to do death to a young man by a process of slow asphyxiation, posed when the play was first produced. Mrs. Rolfe, who is the mother of a young lady Kate Derwent, now presented with so much charm by Miss Mary McElher Mrs. Selwyn is a clever piece of acting, revealing just that art of restraint without which the character would greatly reduce itself into that of an ordinary villainess of Adelphi drama. It may be argued that Miss Rolfe is too quiet in her methods, that she does not sufficiently suggest the woman she rears; but we are inclined to thank her for whatever there is, because she is almost the only one of the author, or not of the actress. Her performance, which on the first night was received with every expression of approval from the audience which included Mrs. Beerbol, Tree and Mrs. Brown, Foster, certainly shows that the author, or not of the actress, has a character in the play which stands out from the rest is that of Sir Peter

with the aid of her kinsfolk, carries him off to gorgeous Butterflyland. Vanessa (Middle, Adeline Geuze), the Queen Butterfly, is first seen asleep, guarded by glow-worm attendants. While journeying through the "glittering" but "barren" landscape, Vanessa is informed of the approach of the prisoner Herve, who has incurred the penalty of death by entering the realms of Fairyland. Ladybird, who wishes to befriend him, counsels him to fly, but he is too weak to do so. The Spider. The revered, many-colored Spider, aided by Grasshopper (Mr. W. H. Bishop), are interrupted as a consequence and, despite all pleadings, the damnable mortal is condemned. Bees and flies are sent to guard him for the royal execution. One of them becomes angry and kills the Spider's web. The Queen's dragon attendants are unable to effect its rescue. Herve's offer to release the Spider's captives is accepted, and, his task accomplished, the Queen relents and frees him and the lovers are united in the presence of a brilliant array of fairies.

A very poem of beauty is made up of the costumes in the different insect ballets; and very pretty, too, is the light of the phosphorescent glow-worms, the humming and tripping, here murmuring and there buzzing in harmony with the winged revellers, and constitutes a delightful addition to this most delightful picture. Mr. J. Haver's scenery, too, is a triumph of the art, and the music, the melody of the whole thing is another tall feather in her artistic cap.

But it is surely more or less presumptuous of the Stratford club to take the name of The Garrick. Apart from the question of taste, it cannot fail to create confusion. "The Stratford" would have been a better title. Even when the Co-

[illegible]

ROBERT, P. K.—The fern enclosed is *Robert Hart's Tongue* (*Stolepandrum Variegatum*). You will find the advertisement somewhere in the paper. This matter is in the manager's department.

A. CROSBY.—If you can keep up a temperature of 60 deg., in your greenhouse you may start the coming plant. If there is a difficulty of doing this wait till the end of the next month. The lilies are right. They are late-flowering varieties. They will grow in due course.

W. H. B. GARDNER.—The Love Apple, or tomato, introduced from South America, is kind.

\$250 IN PRIZES.
KING'S HOME-GROWN SEEDS.

2a. 3d.	2c. 3c.
JOHN K. KING'S Unrivalled collection is a marvel of cheapness and quality. The best value ever offered. Each collection contains six Marrow Fava, pot. Broad Beans, pot. French Beans, packet of Carrots, 1/2 doz. Sprouts, 1/2 doz. Broccoli, 1/2 doz. Caulicis, 1/2 doz. Cabbages, 1/2 doz. Pot. Potatoes, Cucumbers, 1/2 doz. Mustard, Onions, Parsley, Parsnip, Radishes, Turnip, Vegetable Marrow, Spanish, Navy, and 1/2 doz. packets of Snowy Flowers. 30 packets in a box.	
"The seeds I had from you last year gave great satisfaction. During the year I won over 50 prizes."—JOHN K. KING, Seed Grower, Osgoodville, Pa.	

and EXHIBITORS at HORTICULTURAL SHOWS
NITRATE OF SODA
 Indispensable for
 VEGETABLES, FRUIT, and FLOWERS.
 May be brought to the notice of the Horticultural and Floricultural
 PRICES, IN TINS, CONTAINING 41 LB.
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 FULL DIRECTIONS FOR USE.
 ONE SHILLING.
 Free Books on the Use of Nitrate of Soda on the
 Farm and in the Garden may be obtained on application to the
 PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE.
 2, GRAVESEND STREET, LONDON, E.C. 3.

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ESTABLISHED

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W. T. OWEN, C. C.
Sold Everywhere.
At 1012 2d St. N. E.

YESTERDAY'S SPORTING.
(Continued from page 16.)

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNS.
 Kensington H.—Sixteen members participated in this club's closing run of 3½ miles, at Old Town, Clapham, and Wandsworth Common. E. Barton showed the way.
 North Surrey H.—Paced by E. Crow, nearly a dozen members of the North Surrey Harriers took part in a three miles' spin at Battersea Race.

marker, C. Dawson (owes \$0.) and J. Hees (rec. \$00) in the American handicap tournament promoted by Messrs. Burroughes and

Watts was brought to a conclusion at the 19th hole. The scores were as follows:—
 1. George Watts, 3,000; 2. George Watts, 3,100; 3. George Watts, 3,200; 4. George Watts, 3,300; 5. George Watts, 3,400; 6. George Watts, 3,500; 7. George Watts, 3,600; 8. George Watts, 3,700; 9. George Watts, 3,800; 10. George Watts, 3,900; 11. George Watts, 4,000; 12. George Watts, 4,100; 13. George Watts, 4,200; 14. George Watts, 4,300; 15. George Watts, 4,400; 16. George Watts, 4,500; 17. George Watts, 4,600; 18. George Watts, 4,700; 19. George Watts, 4,800; 20. George Watts, 4,900; 21. George Watts, 5,000; 22. George Watts, 5,100; 23. George Watts, 5,200; 24. George Watts, 5,300; 25. George Watts, 5,400; 26. George Watts, 5,500; 27. George Watts, 5,600; 28. George Watts, 5,700; 29. George Watts, 5,800; 30. George Watts, 5,900; 31. George Watts, 6,000; 32. George Watts, 6,100; 33. George Watts, 6,200; 34. George Watts, 6,300; 35. George Watts, 6,400; 36. George Watts, 6,500; 37. George Watts, 6,600; 38. George Watts, 6,700; 39. George Watts, 6,800; 40. George Watts, 6,900; 41. 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George Watts, 29,400; 266.

Closter, 78 net; Keldbine Parish, 77 net; A. H. Hughes, 76 net; H. P. Munday, 79 net.
Juniors: O. R. Parkes, 80 net.

HOCKEY.
Westgate beat Wimbledon by 1 goal to 0.
East Sheen beat Wimbledon by 3 to 0.
Twickenham H.F. beat Finchley H.F. by 7 to 2.
Hipping beat Finchley H.F. by 12 to 0.
Finchley drew with Bromley at 1 goal all.
Hamstead H.I. beat Hawks H.I. by 6 to 1.
Crystal Palace H.F. beat Whitgift Grammar School by 7 to 2.
Eltham H.I. beat Royal Naval School by 9 to 1.
Blackheath beat Royal Military Academy at Blackheath by 7 goals (Livingstone, Keith, and Heath) to 0.
Wimbledon H.F. beat Kidbrooke H.I. by 9 to 4.

BOXING.
NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB.
In the presence of only a small crowd the second series of an 8st 4lb novices' competition was decided among other attractions.

8st 4lb Novices' Competition.—Second round: Bob Kent (St. James's) beat Alf Nicholson (Marylebone Cricket Club) (Bethnal Green) beat T. Gorringe (St. Albans) in two rounds, Bill Nicholson (Drury Lane) beat T. Donovan (St. James's) in the second round, and Alf Gorringe (St. James's) (Borough) beat W. Smith (Mile End). J. Turner (St. James's) beat J. Fian (Barnesbury) on points, W. Smith (Barnesbury) beat J. Bagg (St. George's), J. Wack (West-end) beat J. Watson (Hackney).

Four-round Contest.—G. Atkinson (Barnesbury) beat C. Olds (Barnesbury).

GREYHOUND SALE AT
BARBICAN.
There was a sale of greyhounds, including running dogs, on April 24, at the Royal Repository, Barbican. The following were some of the best prices: Mr. Ramwell's b d Roger and b Jenny, both by Percy Furnace, out of the Earl of Sefton's, £100 and £70 gns. respectively, going into the kennels of the Earl of Sefton; Mr. Ramwell's r d Spring, by Fabulous Fortune, out of E. Lane, brought £100 gns.; Mr. Ramwell's r d Spring, fetched 9 gns.; Mr. Williams, of Southport, sent up four saplings, by Fabulous Fortune,

For My Sake out of Lady Falcon, also whelped in March, at Newmarket, was knocked down for 20 gns.; Mr. C. E. Maule sent up from

Lincoln his two first season training dogs, **Paul Up and No Hurry**, by Five by Trilby, and **Red and Grey**, by Trilby and Red, the remainder of the lots brought but poor prices.

AMERICAN MARKETS.

(DEWEY'S TELEGRAMS.)

New York, March 23.—Stocks opened irregularly. The market closed animated and strong, and near the top figure. Government and foreign bonds were strong and active. **St. Louis** and **St. Paul** were the most active. **St. Louis** and **St. Paul** were the most active. **St. Louis** and **St. Paul** were the most active.

New York, March 23.—Wheat closed firm to 1/2 c. up. Flour and corn steady and unchanged. Lard quiet. Coffee steady, generally 10 points dearer. Cotton steady, 13 to 18 points lower. Petroleum, sugar, and tin steady. Chicago, March 23.—Wheat closed firm to 1/2 c. higher. Corn firm at the rise. Provisions unchanged to 1/2 points down. Pork increased 1/2 c. to 1/2 c. higher. Beef 1/2 c. higher. Bacon and Hogs steady and unchanged.

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YARMOUTH MURDER.

BENNETT HANGED.

THE CULPRIT DIES WITHOUT CONFESSION.

Herbert John Bennett, who was sentenced to death at the Old Bailey by the Lord Chief Justice for the murder of his wife on the beach at Great Yarmouth last September, was hanged on Thursday at Norwich Gaol, whither he had been removed after his condemnation. It was a bright, cold morning, and a great crowd gathered in the vicinity of the prison to witness the hanging of the black flag. While this formality of the law was being observed the flagstaff fell, and there was consequently some delay in the raising of the emblem of death.

PUBLIC SATISFACTION.
The murder had worked with a great effect on the sentiments of the people of Norwich, and it was curious to listen to the expressions of satisfaction fervently uttered that Bennett's day had at last come. No sympathy was expressed for the criminal.

LIFE IN GAOL.
Little has been allowed to leak out about the prisoner's life in prison. He has been lying in the cell which is reserved for condemned prisoners. Bennett is only the second murderer who has been lodged there since the prison was built. The first and previous criminal executed in the building was a Norwegian man named Watt, who shot his wife. According to reports, Bennett, the prisoner, received a considerable amount of trouble during the 15 days he spent in Norwich Prison. It was only with the greatest difficulty that he could be got out of his cell to take the short daily exercise allowed by the prison regulations; when he did go out he was morose and sullen, and spent the time leaning against the prison wall.

ON THE WATCH.
Three warders were kept continually on the watch. His food for the most part was of a liquid nature, as he seemed to have no appetite for anything more substantial. The exacting care demanded on the part of the warders over their charges did not end with the close of each day. The miserable criminal got but little sleep, and after a few nights he became somewhat noisy, and frequently a warder had to remain in the cell with him for hours on end. In his quieter moments he would enter into conversation with his captives, and as far as is known, he never confessed to his guilt. On the contrary, he frequently said that they were going to hang one more innocent man. "I am not going to die," he was often heard to exclaim in moments when he seemed to be contemplating the near approach of his life's end. He was, therefore, a most obstinate man, and the consummation of his misery.

THE LAST MEAL.
A breakfast of tea and bread was taken to him about 7.30 a.m., but he partook of only a small quantity of the food and none of the bread. From this time onward the Rev. E. C. Morgan, the prison chaplain, remained with him, but the condemned man was only semi-conscious, and listened in silence to the ministrations of the clergyman. Billington, assisted by his son, had already completed their grim arrangements for the execution. On Wednesday night the scaffold was erected in what is known as the coach-house, the building being east wing of the prison, and connected with the condemned cell by a corridor some 20 yards in length. The same scaffold was used for the execution of the last criminal hanged in Norwich.

NOTHING TO SAY.
Major Jary made the usual formal visit to the prisoner, and asked him if he desired to make any statement. "No, sir, I have nothing to say," he replied in a low but firm tone. The High Sheriff then informed him that he must be prepared to meet his doom. Prisoner presented a pitiful appearance as he sat in his cell; his eyes appeared to be glazed, and his form wasted by the awful perturbation of mind he had gone through. Billington, the executioner, was now in the cell. The prisoner rose. He stood erect, but evidently found it difficult to suppress his terrible emotion.

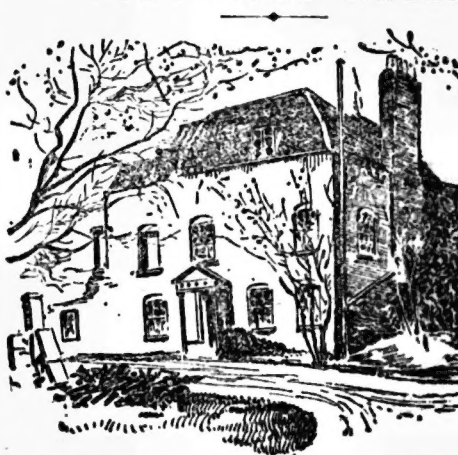
THE PROCESSION.
His arms being now pinioned, he was placed between two warders, and the solemn procession began its sad journey to the scaffold. Maj. Jary led the way. Then followed the chaplain, immediately preceding the prisoner. The clergyman was reciting the penitential services, and the condemned man vainly tried to repeat them, but only an occasional word fell from him. Shortly after the procession was from the cell to the scaffold, Bennett had almost collapsed before he reached there, and frequently the warders had to raise him. The scaffold is reached, and the prisoner takes his stand upon it. He is yellow pale. His eyes are riveted on the little knot of officials.

LAST SCENE OF ALL.
A few seconds suffice for the pinioning of the legs, and the black cloth is thrown over the condemned man's face. He has seen the last of earth, and he now only awaits the signal that will launch him into eternity. This is soon given. Not a sound comes from the prisoner. The brief time he was on the scaffold he stood there without assistance and seemed to make no last effort to nerve himself. He was given a short drop, as he had a pretty solid frame, and was above the average height; but, if an eye-witness is right, the drop seems to have been too short, for nearly two minutes after the prisoner had fallen twitching was observable in his body.

THE INQUEST.
The inquest was then held. The Governor having identified the body, said the execution had been humanely carried out, death being instantaneous. Bennett made no confession. Dr. Robinson, the prison surgeon said death was due to dislocation of the neck. The inquest was held in the morning, and the body was afterwards removed at once. A formal verdict was returned, and the body was afterwards buried within the prison ground.

BENNETT'S WILL.
The Chief Constable of Yarmouth has received from the Governor of Norwich Prison a letter written by Bennett, giving directions as to the disposal of his personal effects, consisting principally of clothing and a

ROSENDALE HALL.



THE HISTORIC HUNTING LODGE AT DULWICH TO BE DEMOLISHED.

Until recently the picturesque suburb of Dulwich has been able to preserve its rural Pickwickian appearance, in spite of the jerry-builder and the necessity of providing dwellings for London's toiling millions, but the old landmarks are now rapidly disappearing. That quaint hostelry, the Manor House, a pre-Elizabethan building is only remembered by pictures. And now Rosendale Hall, erected in 1638, and stated to have been used by Charles II. as a hunting lodge, is to be demolished. Once upon a time people were attracted to the old hall—no doubt much to the annoyance of the occupants—by the medicinal virtues of a well, which was only lately built over owing to some drainage works interfering with the water supply. The upper rooms—one of which was entitled King Charles II.'s bedroom—contained some fine specimens of English cabinet work of the sixteenth century, a bureau in black oak bearing the inscription, "Probat et Verus—Carolus Rex, anno domini 1619." The stables and kennels and the ancient turnip, which adorned the fireplace of the baronial kitchen, long ago made their exit, most of the chief structural alterations being carried out by Lord Chancellor Thurlow, during his residence at the Hall.

THE EMPIRE TOUR.
The Ophir, with the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York on board, reached Gibraltar on Wednesday, followed by the Diadem. The Niobe had arrived at one in the morning, and communicated with the shore as to the details of the reception. The vessel was instructed by the Ophir to get into communication with Gibraltar by wireless telegraphy, and the attempt was successful. It was a beautiful spring morning, a north-westerly breeze blowing, and as the Ophir steamed in the warships fired salutes. Then the Governor, Sir G. White, boarded her, and was received with due honours. Sir George cordially welcomed the Royal party, accompanied by Sir G. White and staff, then drove from the dockyard to the Chamber of Commerce, and were enthusiastically greeted along the route. Prior to the presentation of an address by the president of the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the inhabitants of Gibraltar, three young ladies presented a bouquet to the Duchess, who gracefully acknowledged the gift.

THE DUKE'S SPEECH.
The Duke pinned the C.M.G. medal on the breast of Mr. A. Mosley, the reader of the address, amid deafening cheers, as the decoration, which was universally approved, was unexpected. Referring to the address, the Duke, on behalf of the Duchess and himself, expressed the deep feeling of gratitude with which he had listened to the words of kindly welcome from the ancient and loyal city, and his pleasure in being able to revisit Gibraltar. He first landed there 22 years ago, and had happy reminiscences of the place, but he did not forget that on several occasions the city had accorded an enthusiastic welcome to his dear father. Then the memory of

THE LION AND THE BEAR.
Out on the desert steppes, where the wounded lion lies low. His hungry comrades, with lolling tongues and red eyes, come and go, the strife of life and death. For they dare not come to the hideous feast till spent is the victim's breath. And as it is in the icy plains, where dead men's fleshless bones Peer out before the traveller's eye, amid the frost-cracked stones, So still the man who rule while the fate of the Power that be, Wait to devour a stricken friend in a moment of agony.

It was always so in this world of ours, and Britain's mighty power Has ever been watched with jealous eyes for the chance of some peril hour. But the strength that lay in the oak heart of her own proud forest tree Has formed her bulwark firm and sound beyond the farthest sea.

The acorn grew long years ago in her own deep forest glade, And that acorn's descendants are oaks to-day which spread their grateful shade. O'er nations whose sires were men of our own, who speak of our land as home, Although those sires are dead and gone, and they o'er the ocean roam.

To-day the Empire is wounded, and we are fighting to hold our own. To keep unstained our honour, the honour of our Throne; And the watchful Bear has ventured as far as to leave some more his paw To risk his paw between the bars of the wounded lion's den.

So be it! The Bear his million ill-paid cubs may bring; He has to force them to fight, but with us it's quite another thing. Ill fights the man who only the spur we call conception fears, And the British Lion can find a million or more who are volunteers.

The Bear and the Lion have met before—it isn't so long ago— And the Bear, with his tail between his legs, was glad to be home. To-day, perchance, the Lion may seem to be weary and full of pain, But—dear God!—he can, and he will, if need be, thrash the Bear again!

MADGE ST. MAURY.
March 21, 1901.

PARKER'S EXECUTION.
MR. PARKER'S FAREWELL LETTER TO HIS MOTHER.
George Henry Parker was hanged in Wandsworth Gaol on Tuesday morning for the murder of William Pearson, a farmer, of Chichester-place, Winchester, in a London and South-Western train between Surbiton and Vauxhall on Jan. 17. On being apprised by Maj. Knox, the governor of the prison, that the hour of his death was near, the condemned man quietly submitted to pinioning by Billington, the executioner, and walked with firm step to the scaffold. Death was instantaneous, and at the inquest the jury formally found that Parker had paid the penalty of his crime according to law. On the eve of his execution Parker wrote the last of many long letters to his mother, in which he said: "A few more hours and an unjust sentence will have been carried out, and I shall be no more. The events of my life have come back to me since I have been in here. It makes one think when he is in close confinement. I repeated his request that his mother should warn his brothers and sisters to keep off drink, averring that he should never have bought the revolver had he been sober. The official record of Parker's antecedents reveals a chequered career, comprising 10 convictions, mostly for theft. In June, 1899, he was discharged from his mother, in which he said: "A few more hours and an unjust sentence will have been carried out, and I shall be no more. The events of my life have come back to me since I have been in here. It makes one think when he is in close confinement. I repeated his request that his mother should warn his brothers and sisters to keep off drink, averring that he should never have bought the revolver had he been sober. The official record of Parker's antecedents reveals a chequered career, comprising 10 convictions, mostly for theft. 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